REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to place the above-identified application in more proper format under United States practice. By the present Preliminary Amendment the specification has been amended to update the U.S. patent status of certain references recited in the background section.

Original Claims 1-4 are cancelled and new Claims 5-14 are presented for examination. New Claims 5-14 are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, including original Claims 1-4, and thus are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter. Any differences between new Claims 5-14 and original Claims 1-4 are deemed to at most broaden the scope of new Claims 5-14.

A new Abstract believed to be in more proper format under United States practice is also submitted herein.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier
Registration No. 25,599
Attorney of Record
Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423

Crystal Square Five - Fourth Floor
1755 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, Virginia 22202
(703) 413-3000
Fax #: (703)413-2220
GJM:SNS/rac
I:\atty\SNS\215976US-PR.wpd

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IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 2, beginning at line 17, bridging page 3, line 1, please delete the paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

--In the patent filed on 28 August 1987 under No. 87 12 039 and granted on 29 April 1994 under No. 2 619 982, corresponding to U.S. 5,150,105, the company THOMSON-CSF proposed a solution to this problem, consisting in using a set of subpixels, dubbed a microregion as it is widely known, to represent each dot. The distribution of the luminances and chrominances of the subpixels within these microregions obeys a law which is variable as a function of the result to be obtained and which makes it possible to alleviate the various drawbacks mentioned above. For example the representation of a stroke will correspond to a distribution of the luminance having the shape of a Gaussian in a direction transverse to this stroke, and this will give the desired thickness for good visibility and will "erase" the staircase effects. Numerous distribution laws which make it possible to tackle most of the situations encountered are currently known. In this basic patent, the processing corresponding to the use of these microregions, often referred to as filtering, is performed in a processing unit known as a "UMIP", standing for microregion unit, placed between the pixel memory and the matrix screen. This implies that the digital processing is performed on all the pixels, thus requiring particularly considerable computational power.

Page 3, at lines 4-17, please delete the paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

In a French patent application filed on 23 August 1990 under No. 90 10587, published on 3 February 1995 under No. 2 666 165, and granted via the European channel on [26.04.1995] 26 April 1995 under No. 0472463, and corresponding to U.S. 5,287,451, the company SEXTANT Avionique proposed that the processing defining the microregions be performed by placing the UMIP performing this processing ahead of the image memory. The throughput of the processing in this UMIP is thus much lower, since it corresponds only to the dot actually displayed, but on the other hand the size of the image memory must be much larger, since it is necessary to store n times the set of pixels of the screen, n being equal to the number of pixels contained in a microregion.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-4 (Canceled).

Claims 5-14 (New).--

IN THE ABSTRACT

(New).